REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the forgoing amendments and following remarks.

Claims 1-7 have been cancelled without prejudice and rewritten as new claims 8-14, respectively.

The wording of the new claims overcomes each of the informalities noted by the Examiner in the Official Action, and includes other editorial changes in conformance with US practice. Please note that the amendment of "normal temperature" to "25 °C" is supported in the specification at page 3, line 6 from the bottom of the page.

In view of the forgoing comments, it is believed that each ground of rejection set forth in the Official Action has been overcome, and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, such allowance is solicited.

The Examiner is kindly requested to acknowledge the claim for foreign priority and acknowledge receipt of the certified priority document filed January 16, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Masanori TSUJI et al.

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

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